Hamilton Field, Water Storage Standpipe (Facility Nos. 539) Terminus of Water Tower Road Novato Marin County California HABS No. CA-2398-CF

HABS CAL 21-NOVA, ICF-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS CAL 21-NOVA, ICF-

HAMILTON FIELD Water Storage Standpipe (Facility No. 539)

HABS No. CA-2398-CF

Location:

Hamilton Army Air Field

Novato, Marin County, California

Water Storage Standpipe

Facility No. 539 (terminus of Water Tower Road)

U.S.G.S.: Novato, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1954 (revised 1980) Petaluma Point, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1959 (revised 1980) UTM Coordinates: Zone 10; A: 542100/4213620; B: 544720/4212220;

C: 542760/4210650; D: 541040/4212600

Significance:

One of the original structures at Hamilton Air Field, the water tower is a contributing element to the district. It is significant as one of the most visible structures upon entering the base, a landmark identifying feature.

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) for a comprehensive Statement of Significance and individual report HABS No. CA-2398-A for a condensed Statement of Significance.

Description:

This water storage tank overlooks the base from its highest hill, near the location of the base radio tower, and was used not only as a water tank but as a locational beacon. The circular steel tank was completed in 1933 and stands approximately 70 feet tall and is 25 feet in diameter. It has a low-pitched metal roof and a concrete foundation. It is constructed of ten seven-foot-high steel panels that are riveted together. The side seams are staggered and have a triple row of rivets. It has a water storage capacity of 265,000 gallons. This structure was equipped with a painter's trolley and a beacon platform, and is painted in an orange-and-white checkerboard pattern.

Historical Context:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

HAMILTON FIELD Water Storage Standpipe (Facility No. 539)

HABS No. CA-2398-CF Page 2

The water tower was one of the first structures erected on base and had the base name painted on its west side. Visible from the original sentry house, it was the identifying feature when entering the base. It was built by the Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Group for \$7,833.00.

Sources:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

Project Information:

Hamilton Army Air Field is owned by various federal entities including the Department of the Navy, Department of the Army, United States Coast Guard, and General Services Administration (GSA). The Army/GSA parcels are being excessed and sold to private developers. The Navy property is included in Base Closure and Realignment actions.

As part of the Army's undertaking, it has been determined in consultation with the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) that the excess sale will have an affect on properties at the air field, and that these properties are components of a district that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on consultation with the OHP and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was entered into by the interested parties in March 1994. The agreement stipulated that prior to excess sale the Army must contact the HABS/HAER division at the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service, Sen Francisco, California, to determine the appropriate level and kind of recordation for the subject properties. The MOA further stipulated that copies of the documentation be made available to the OHP and appropriate local archives designated by the OHP. This recordation has been prepared in order to meet those stipulations.

Text prepared by: Mary L. Maniery/Judith Marvin

Title: Historian/Architectural Historian

Affiliation: PAR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC., Sacramento, California

Date prepared: July 1995

Photography prepared by: David De Vries Affiliation: Mesa Technical, Berkeley, California

Date of photographs: November 1994

